

Annual Report for 1896.

February 1st, 1897.

To the Chairman and Members of the Astley Bridge  
Urban District Council:

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the past year on the Sanitary condition of your District during that period.

You will note from the Table of deaths (A) accompanying this report that the number of deaths registered was 105, and of Births 181 - giving respective rates, on the estimated population of 6,700, of 15.671 and 27.014 per 1,000, - a decrease in the death rate of 2 per 1,000.

Of the deaths twenty-nine occurred under the age of 1 year; thirteen between the ages of 1 year and 5; two between 5 and 15; six between 15 and 25; thirty-four between 25 and 65; and twenty-one over 65 years, the latter being exactly one fifth of the total deaths.

The death rate of children under 1 year old was 160.2 per 1,000 births.

The causes of death were ascribed as follows:-

Zymotics, eight, viz: Typhoid Fever 3, and Whooping Cough 5, the rate being 1.19 per 1,000. Respiratory diseases caused 19 deaths, giving a rate of 2.83 per 1,000; Phthisis five - with a rate 0.74 per 1,000; Chest affections showing a decided decrease during the past year. Deaths from "All other causes" were 73.

Seven inquests were held - the causes of death being varied, possessing no special interests.

The non-Certificated deaths were three - in which inquests



Annual Report for 1896.

February 1st, 1897.

To the Chairman and Members of the Astley Bridge  
Urban District Council:

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report for the  
past year on the Sanitary condition of your District during  
that period.

You will note from the Table of deaths (A) accompanying  
~~this report that the number of deaths registered was 107, and~~  
of which 161 - giving respective rates, on the estimated  
population of 6,700, of 15.671 and 24.014 per 1,000, - a  
decrease in the death rate of 2 per 1,000.

Of the deaths twenty-nine occurred under the age of 1 year;  
thirteen between the ages of 1 year and 5; two between 5 and  
15; six between 15 and 25; thirty-four between 25 and 65; and  
twenty-one over 65 years, the latter being exactly one fifth  
of the total deaths.

The death rate of children under 1 year old was 160.2  
per 1,000 births.

The causes of death were described as follows:-

Dysentery, eight, viz: Typhoid Fever 3, and Whooping  
Cough 5, the rate being 1.19 per 1,000. Respiratory diseases  
caused 19 deaths, giving a rate of 2.82 per 1,000; Phthisis  
five - with a rate 0.74 per 1,000; Chest affections showing a  
decided decrease during the past year. Deaths from "All other  
causes" were 73.

Seven inquiries were held - the causes of death being  
varied, possessing no special interests.  
The non-Certificated deaths were three - in which inquiries



were declined by the Coroner, deaths being attributed to "Convulsions" two, Premature birth, one. These uncertified cases have much diminished in late years, a cause for much satisfaction.

During the year I have had nine cases of Scarlet fever notified to me, all of a mild character, unattended by any fatal result. Also a very unusual number of Typhoid fever cases - 23 in all. Most of them were of a modified form - though three proved fatal. In my monthly reports I have referred to these cases. Those occurring at Eden's Hollow were undoubtedly owing to bad sanitary conditions and defects of personal cleanliness. The father died, and the family removed to Workhouse Hospital by order of the Union Medical Officer in attendance. The house disinfected and closed, the beds, bedding and clothing destroyed. Typhoid also appeared in George Street - five being attacked in one house; these cases were undoubtedly due to the milk obtained from a Farm at which two cases subsequently developed. I also clearly traced several others cases to this source. The great majority of these proved of a mild character with no fatal result. I have no doubt the original cause of this outbreak was due to insanitary surroundings, and I felt it my duty to close the farm and remove the cows. These were sold - and no further sale of milk has taken place. The water supply was from the Bolton Corporation.

The other cases of "Fever" were scattered in the district and had no origin in common.

I instructed the Inspector to visit and report upon every person who had been in the custom of obtaining milk from the farm referred to; this he did, and in no instance did he find any other case of illness other than those already reported to me. The age of every person living in each house was given. The number of houses so visited was 48 - in addition to which



were declined by the Coroner, death being attributed to "Convulsions" two, Premature birth, one. These unverified cases have much diminished in late years, a cause for much satisfaction.

During the year I have had nine cases of Scarlat fever notified to me, all of a mild character, unattended by any fatal result. Also a very unusual number of Typhoid fever cases - 23 in all. Most of them were of a modified form - though three proved fatal. In my monthly reports I have referred to these cases. Those occurring at Eden's Hollow were undoubtedly owing to bad sanitary conditions and defects of personal cleanliness. The father died, and the family removed to Northwood Hospital by order of the Union Medical Officer in attendance. The house disinfectant and closed, the beds, bedding and clothing destroyed. Typhoid also appeared in George Street - five being attacked in one house; these cases were undoubtedly due to the milk obtained from a farm at which two cases subsequently developed. I also clearly traced several other cases to this source. The great majority of these proved of a mild character with no fatal result. I have no doubt the original cause of this outbreak was due to insanitary surroundings, and I felt it my duty to close the farm and remove the cows. These were sold - and no further sale of milk has taken place. The water supply was from the Holton Corporation.

The other cases of "Typhoid" were scattered in the district and had no origin in common.

I instructed the Inspector to visit and report upon every person who had been in the custom of obtaining milk from the farm referred to; this he did, and in no instance did he find any other case of illness other than those already reported to me. The age of every person living in each house was given. The number of houses so visited was 48 - in addition to which



he called at every house where he heard of any illness existing.

The other two fatal cases of Typhoid were - in a man at Blackburn Road - where the sanitary surroundings appeared satisfactory; and the other in a boy aged 4 years at Belmont Road.

In all cases of Infectious diseases - Sulphur dioxide fumigation has been employed, and in many cases clothes and bedding destroyed. Thirty notices of abatement of nuisances have been served - and duly carried out.

The Cow and Dairy Sheds have been visited and observations taken as to cleanliness and water supply, &c.

Refuse from Slaughter-houses, fish shops, &c. is removed by the carts of the Council - regularly - and utilized as manure.

Night-soil is also used as manure - the ashes being tipped.

A considerable amount of drainage work has been done during the year.

Four beasts have been condemned and destroyed as unfit for food. Eight others examined and passed by your Inspectors.

A considerable number of Houses have been built at Broad o'th Lane, Bar Lane, Belmont Road, Old Road, Greenwood Vale, &c.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Robert Settle, M.D.

Med. Officer of Health.



in called at every house where he heard of any illness existing.  
The other two fatal cases of typhoid were - in a man at  
Blackburn Road - where the sanitary surroundings appeared  
satisfactory; and the other in a boy aged 4 years at Belmont  
Road.

In all cases of infectious diseases - Sulphur dioxide  
fumigation has been employed, and in many cases clothes and  
bedding destroyed. Thirty notices of abatement of nuisances  
have been served - and duly carried out.  
The Cow and Dairy Sheds have been visited and observations  
taken as to cleanliness and water supply, &c.  
Refuse from slaughter-houses, fish shops, &c. is removed  
by the carts of the Council - regularly - and utilized as

Manure - the ashes being

tripped.

A considerable amount of drainage work has been done during

the year.

Four houses have been condemned and destroyed as unfit  
for food. Eight others examined and passed by your Inspectors.  
A considerable number of houses have been built at Broad  
oak Lane, Bar Lane, Belmont Road, Old Road, Greenwood  
Vale, &c.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Robert Gattie, M.D.

Med. Officer of Health.